

those of our fellows who are not of the Household of Faith, whenever we see our taking up the cudgels would benefit our adversaries, or would redound to the honor of our holy religion. Especially ought we so to do when we are asked the "reason for the faith that is in us" which leads us to regard the patronage of the Saints with so great a confidence. In a few words we may show that we believe the Saints to have nothing whatsoever that they have not received. That we believe the Saints to be mediators of intercession only, not of salvation, and that we rely on their merits as *no addition* to the *infinite* merits of our Lord, but as secondary, derived from and dependent upon them. But because, as the Holy Scriptures teach, and the experience of every age has verified, that: "*The eyes of the Lord are upon the just, and His ears unto their prayers,*" (Ps. xxxiii—16.) the people of God have ever sought their prayers. The epistles of St. Paul are full of requests for the prayers of the sanctified in the churches to which they are addressed. Moreover we know from Holy Writ, (as we might reasonably have believed had they been silent on the subject) that a great part of the Saints' happiness in heaven consists in their praying for and helping their brethren and clients upon earth.

*"The four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps and golden vials full of odors, which are the prayers of the Saints. Rev. V—8 And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense that he should offer it with the prayers of all Saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the Saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hands."*—(Rev. viii—3, 4.) Now we know well that though God is infinitely merciful, and ready to hear our prayers, yet it is our duty and His will, that we should neglect no means by which we may be forwarded in our progress toward a happy eternity; and therefore it is agreeable to His Divine Majesty, that we should both pray ourselves without ceasing, and that